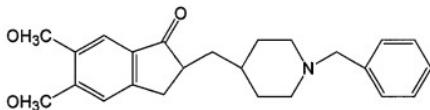


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the application:

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended): A method of protecting neurons of the central nervous system, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of 1-benzyl-4-[(5,6-dimethoxy-1-indanone)-2-yl]methylpiperidine represented by the following chemical formula or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein the neurons are protected from damage induced by cerebral ischemia, excitotoxicity, or A β toxicity, or A β aggregation.

14-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the neurons are protected from damage induced by A β toxicity associated with Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome.

19-27. (Canceled)